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UNCLAS DJIBOUTI 000418

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/E JANE GAFFNEY AND AF/E NOLE GAREY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [EAIR](#) [DJ](#)

SUBJECT: SAFE SKIES AND DJIBOUTI

[1](#)1. (U) This is an action message. Action requested paragraph 3.

[1](#)2. (U) During Ambassador's courtesy call on Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director for Bilateral Relations, Mohammed Ali Hassan, Hassan asked about status for Djibouti of "Safe Skies," the presidential initiative to promote sustainable improvements in aviation safety and security in Africa. He noted that a team had come from the U.S. to visit Djibouti about two years ago and that Ministry of Transportation personnel went to the U.S. to attend a conference. Since then, he said, there has been no follow-up. Hassan asked if U.S. assistance would continue in this area and who the contact person from the Embassy would be. Ambassador said she would look into the matter and get back to Hassan.

[1](#)3. (U) Ambassador notes that during her consultations in Washington, she had understood that the U.S. no longer had a Safe Skies program with Djibouti. Embassy institutional memory is incomplete. Please advise if Safe Skies, as a program, is still envisioned for Djibouti, or if money is being /has been allocated for this purpose, so that she may appropriately respond to Hassan.

RAGSDALE